

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are in the application. Claim 1 is currently amended and claims 2-26 remain unchanged from the original versions thereof. Claims 1, 8, 17, and 23-26 are the independent claims herein.

No new matter is added to the application as a result of the amendments submitted herewith.

Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102(e)

Claims 1-26 were rejected as being anticipated by Zhu et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,567,813 (hereinafter, Zhu). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited and relied upon Zhu does not disclose each and every element configured as stated in the claim. In particular, it is noted that claim 1 relates to a method for allowing a stand-by server to take over support for communications from a main server including detecting, by a stand-by server, lack of a signal initiated by a main server, wherein reception of the signal is indicative of availability of the main server. Thus, it is clear that Applicant claims a method wherein a stand-by server detects lack of a signal initiated by a main server, the signal being indicative of availability of the main server.

Despite the characterization of Zhu in the rejection, Zhu does not disclose a method including a stand-by server detecting lack of a signal initiated by a main server that is indicative of availability of the main server. Zhu discloses a number of CB (collaboration) servers 380 n ($n=A, B, C, \dots$) and a meeting manager 350 where one CB server may be used in the instance another of the CB servers fail. Contrary to Applicant's claim language, Zhu discloses that meeting manager 350 attempts to contact CB server 380 n and if no response is received within a predefined time limit, meeting manager 350 determines that CB server 380 n has failed." See Zhu, col. 8, ln. 44-52) That is, the meeting manager 350 detects a lack of a signal initiated by a CB

server. Zhu does not disclose one of the CB servers 380n that operates as a replacement for a failed CB server 380n detecting the lack of a signal initiated by a main server.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Zhu does not anticipate claim 1 under 35 USC 102(e) for at least the reasons stated hereinabove. Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that claims 2-7 are patentable over Zhu under 35 USC 102(e) for at least the same reasons provided above regarding claim 1.

Regarding claim 8, Applicant respectfully submits that Zhu fails to disclose, at least, a method for allowing a client connection device to switch between a main server and a stand-by server including receiving a request for call state information from a stand-by server. Notably, Zhu discloses meeting manager 350 detects a CB server 380n failure and retrieves a list of meetings handled by the failed CB sever 380n. Further, while Zhu discloses a newly spawned (replacement) CB server 380n recovers its state information, there is no disclosure (or suggestion) that the replacement server 380n requests call state information. Thus, Zhu fails to disclose (or suggest) the claimed "receiving a request for call state information from said stand-by server".

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Zhu does not anticipate claim 8 under 35 USC 102(e) for at least the reasons stated hereinabove. Claims 9-16 depend from claim 8. It is respectfully submitted that claims 9-16 are patentable over Zhu under 35 USC 102(e) for at least the same reasons provided above regarding claim 8.

Regarding claim 17, Applicant respectfully submits that Zhu fails to disclose, at least, the claimed method for allowing a client connection device to switch between a main server and a stand-by server, including "receiving a request initiated by said stand-by server to reset said call to a designated call state; and resetting said call to said designated call state." (See claim 17)

Referring to the cited and relied upon Zhu, there is no apparent disclosure or suggestion of resetting of a call state to a designated call state. For example, Zhu discloses that in the instance an application server goes down the application state is

lost. (See Zhu, col. 9, ln. 16-17) However, there is no disclosure (or suggestion) of receiving a request initiated by a stand-by server to reset a call to a designated call state and resetting the call to the designated call state. Further, it is not shown or admitted that such a request is either inherent.

Thus, Zhu fails to disclose (or suggest), at least, the claimed "receiving a request initiated by said stand-by server to reset the call to a designated call state; and resetting the call to the designated call state."

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Zhu does not anticipate claim 17 under 35 USC 102(e) for at least the reasons stated hereinabove. Claims 18-22 depend from claim 17. It is respectfully submitted that claims 18-22 are patentable over Zhu under 35 USC 102(e) for at least the same reasons provided above regarding claim 17.

Claim 25 is worded similar to claim 23 and was grouped and rejected for the same reasons provided regarding claim 23. Claim 23 relates to a method (claim 25, a medium) for allowing a stand-by server to take over support for communications from a main server including a main server providing at least one signal to a stand-by server when the main server is available, and the stand-by server establishing at least one connection with at least one client connection device when the stand-by server does not receive a designated number of signals from the main server indicative of availability of the main server. For at least reasons similar to those discussed at length above regarding claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that Zhu does not anticipate claims 23 and 25. For example, Zhu does not disclose the claimed a main server providing at least one signal to a stand-by server when the main server is available. Again, Zhu discloses that the meeting manager 350 therein detects heartbeat signals from a CB server.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Zhu does not anticipate claims 23 and 25 under 35 USC 102(e) for at least the reasons stated hereinabove.

Claims 24 and 26 were grouped and rejected for the same reasons. Claim 24 relates to a method (claim 26, a medium) for a stand-by server to take over support for communications from a main server including said stand-by server establishing at least one connection with said at least one client connection device when the stand-by server does not receive a designated number of signals from the main server indicative of availability of the main server, and the stand-by server requesting the at least one client connection device to reset to a designated call state. Again, Zhu does not disclose (or suggest) a stand-by server receiving a signal indicative of availability of a main server from the main server and resetting a client connection device. See discussion of claims 1 and 17 above.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Zhu does not anticipate claims 24 and 26 under 35 USC 102(e) for at least the reasons stated hereinabove.

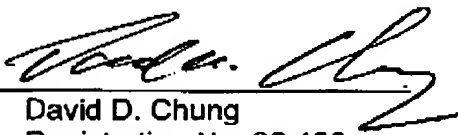
CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned.

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